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Friends of the Geography and Map Division

Philip Lee Phillips Map Society of the Library of Congress

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MAPS

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*News and information about
the premier map collections of
the Library of Congress.*

As we begin 2014, I would like to take a moment to share with you some of the Division's new goals and recent achievements. I also wish to express how very grateful we are for your contributions to the Phillips Society, which have helped to make so many good things happen here in G&M.

In the fall, we held a Steering Committee meeting in Tampa and set a goal for the Phillips Society to reach more than \$1 million in accumulated donations by the time of our Spring Conference in May. We continue to be amazed and appreciative of your contributions. We have collected \$956,779.62 to date. I am confident we will achieve our goal.

Our online presence continues to grow. We have more than 40,000 maps online this year and our Twitter account has now jumped to more than 6,000 followers.

The Division's physical space is being updated. We are in the midst of building a new secured storage facility, which is designed to house the Division's platinum and

gold atlas collections. Construction on the 1,625-square-foot facility started on November 1, 2013. The Reading Room will be undergoing a major upgrade in the spring.

Collaborations continue to be important. We have an agreement with the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, which has provided a ten-person team to help scan our entire African set map collection. When completed, each institution will have digital images of the maps, and G&M will retain the original maps.

We also partnered with the National Library of Korea to preserve four historic maps of Korea. Since 2007, 34 unique map scrolls and sheets published between 1760 and 1900 have been preserved and digital images are posted online.

A record \$2,570,220 was spent on acquisitions. This included the purchase of 22,585 maps, 830 atlases, 4,400 computer files and 253 publications. A special focus was on acquiring maps of emerging and geopolitical powers, such as China, Iran



and Brazil.

We added important and rare historical maps, including Giuseppe Rosaccio's *Universale Descrizione Di Tutto il Mondo* (c.1620). This set of engraved sheets is one of the largest Italian world maps published in the seventeenth century and is emblematic of the "Lafreri school" of map-making. Pieter Goos' *West-Indische Paskaert* (c.1674) is a sea chart on vellum. It represents one of the most important Dutch contributions to hydrography in the seventeenth century. We also purchased a hand-colored Korean celestial atlas. The translated title reads: "Old Sky Chart Showing the Rank and a Distribution of Stars." This treasure was printed from

Story continues on page 10

Introducing New Steering Committee Members

Richard ("Dick") Pflederer became interested in the history of cartography when his work took him to Singapore in 1986.

Initially, Mr. Pflederer focused on sixteenth-century printed maps of the Far East. His interest shifted to the voyages of exploration, particularly those of the Portuguese in Asia and portolan charts.

In 2005, he won the Caird Fellowship of the National Maritime Museum and has conducted other long-term research projects while a resident at the British Library and the Bodleian Library at Oxford. He is a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, a member of the Editorial Advisory Council of *The Portolan*, a member of the Society for the History of Discoveries and the International Map Collectors' Society.

Mr. Pflederer teaches in the Christopher Wren Association of the College of William & Mary and is a member of the adjunct faculty of Old Dominion University. He also has taught the history of cartography to G&M staff members.

In 2009, he founded the Williamsburg Map Circle, a group whose aim is to promote the understanding of maps within the community. He has been a member of the Phillips Society since

2011.

He published a popular history of portolan charts in 2012 called, *Finding Their Way at Sea*. He also is the author of seven reference books and several articles, focusing on the subject of nautical cartography.

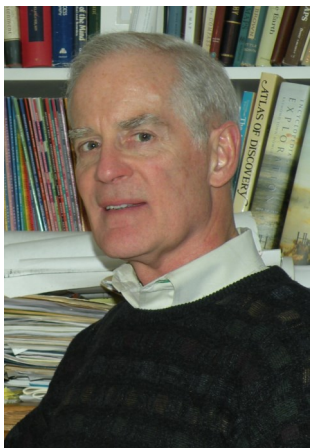


Mr. Pflederer is a graduate of Northwestern University and his career has focused on international business with long-term assignments in several countries, including Brazil, Singapore, Hong Kong and Japan.

He and his wife Sue share their time between Williamsburg and Tuscany, where they have a small house.

*

James Walker is a retired physician living in Eugene, Oregon. He attended Amherst College and Case Western University School of Medicine, served in the USAF and completed his specialty training in Rochester, New York before moving to Eugene. There, he practiced nephrology and internal medicine for twenty-six years.



Dr. Walker retired from medical practice in December, 2003. "While I could still count to ten," he said. Since then he has drawn personal enjoyment and fulfillment from a growing family, community service, extensive travel, and his cartographic avocation.

Story continues on page 6



The Philip Lee Phillips Map Society of the Library of Congress is named in honor of Philip Lee Phillips (1857-1924), the first Superintendent of Maps at the Library of Congress when the Hall of Maps and Charts was established in 1897.

The group is a non-profit, voluntary association whose objective is to develop, enhance, and promote the work of the Geography and Map Division by advancing its publication, education, exhibition, preservation and acquisition programs.

To obtain membership and activities information, please contact:

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Former G&M Chief Co-Edits Book on Perry and Japan Ship Clerk's Journal Reveals Intriguing Details

William Speiden Jr. was a teen-aged clerk on the flag ship of Commodore Matthew Calbraith Perry that was on its way in 1852 to “open” relations between America and the isolationist Japanese nation. The 16-year-old sailor captured important details about the historic trip in a journal that he kept until 1855.

It is now the subject of a new book that was co-edited by former G&M Chief John A. Wolter. *With Commodore Perry to Japan: The Journal of William Speiden Jr., 1852-1855*, was published by the Naval Institute Press. It is available as both a paperback and a E-book.

A Journey of a Lifetime

As a young sailor, Speiden saw many wonders on his voyage. His ship departed Philadelphia in March 1852. After sailing down the east coast, the ship headed into the Atlantic Ocean. Docking at St. Helena, which is roughly in the middle of the ocean, the clerk visited the house and grave of Napoleon, who had been imprisoned there by the British. He next rounded the horn of Africa and by April 1853, reached Hong Kong.

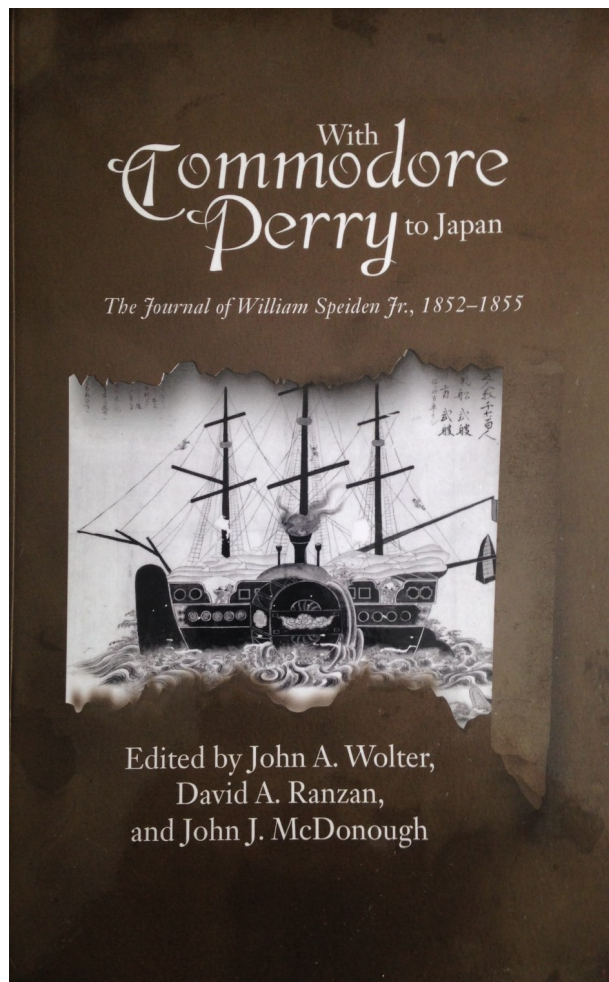
Finally, in 1854, the Perry mission reached its objective: Japan. Using so-called “gunboat diplomacy,” The Treaty of Kanagawa was reached with the Tokugawa shogunate. After a 200-year policy of self-imposed seclusion, the Japanese ports of Shimoda and Hakodate were opened as trading zones to the United States. The Japanese guaranteed the safety of shipwrecked sailors, who were previously executed for illegally entering her soil. The basis for a permanent American consul in Shimoda was established, as well. A year later, Speiden and his shipmates returned home.

Preserving the Author's Voice

The journey of Perry is of considerable interest to Mr. Wolter, who, along with David Ranzan, university archivist at Salisbury University, and the late John McDonough, a manuscript historian at the Library of Congress from 1961 to 1998, edited Speiden's handwritten journal.

The editors described Speiden's entries as “stirring scenes that were vividly impressed upon [him] while sailing to the Pacific Ocean via the Cape of Good Hope.”

Wolter and his colleagues retained



the Speiden's nineteenth century writing style, transcribing passages as they were written. Several illustrations created by Speiden, shipmates and persons he met while traveling supplement the text.

The clerk's journal is today housed in the Library of Congress Manuscript Division. It is one of some 254 collections in the *Naval Historical Foundation Manuscript Collection*, which was formally acquired in 1998. Several maps from the Library's collections were used to illustrate the book.

Story continues on page 6

G&M and Taiwanese Center Co-Publish Guide to Early Chinese Maps at the Library of Congress

Phillips Society Helped to Fund the Project

The Division and the Academia Sinica Digital Center, located in Taiwan, have co-published a new book titled: *Reading Imperial Cartography: Ming—Qing Historical Maps in the Library of Congress*.

The brilliantly colored, folio-sized book was in part funded by the Phillips Society.

Dr. Lin Tien-Jen, the author, described 476 maps that were created over the course of some 700 years. The maps have been digitally reproduced and have descriptions in Chinese with English translations by Min Zhang, Head of G&M's Cataloging Team.

Dr. Lin a scholar at the National Palace Museum in Taipei, wanted to illustrate cartography from the perspective of Chinese mapmakers.

"His dedication, scholarship, thorough research skills and vast knowledge of Chinese history formed the impetus for the project," said Ms. Zhang of the author.

Ralph E. Ehrenberg, Chief of G&M, wrote the preface, explaining the history of Chinese map acquisitions at the Library. The first Chinese map was given by Emperor Tongzhi of the Qing Dynasty in 1869 to the Library. The gift reflected a growing diplomatic relationship between the two nations. In 1904, the Chinese government donated 198 works in 1,965 volumes. American and Chinese diplomats supplemented the growing collection with gifts from their own per-

sonal libraries.

The largest collection of rare Chinese maps in the Chinese language was acquired through the efforts of Arthur W. Hummel, Head of the Library's Orientalia Division from 1928 to 1964, and through the philanthropy of Andrew W. Mellon, the American industrialist.

Dr. Cordell D.K. Yee, Phillips Society Academic Advisory member and professor at St. John's College in Annapolis, wrote an essay to contextualize the maps depicted in book, titled.

Dr. Yee wrote that the westernization and modernization of Chinese cartography started in the nineteenth century, which is much later than is commonly presumed.

Unlike the West, mapmaking in China was not primarily based on mathematics and measurement. Rather, a vibrant pictorial map tradition existed. Texts and annotations often supplemented maps, which helped to explain location-specific information.

This is not to say that China lacked scientific knowledge. While Chinese astronomers grasped that the earth was

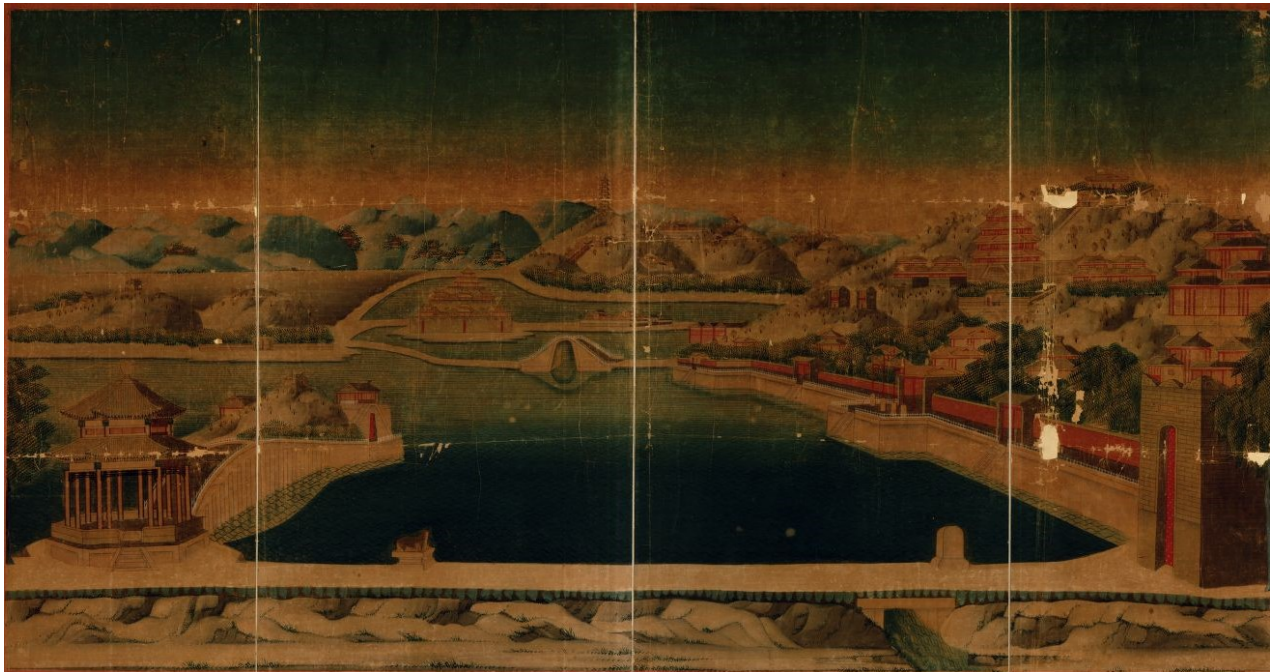


a sphere, cartographers developed a tradition of representing the world in an artistic way.

Editor's note: See an example of a pictorial map on the next page.

By Ryan Moore

Map of Chinese Palace in Beijing



A panoramic view of the Beijing Summer Palace and the grounds before they were reconstructed in 1888. Pictorial maps were commonly employed by Chinese cartographers. This view is sized at 92 x 177 cm.

Notes from Around the Division

John Hessler has launched a quarterly column in *Arc News*, a publication by ESRI. His first story, "History of GIS and Early Computer Cartography Project," appears in the Winter 2013/2014, Vol. 35, No. 4, issue.

Mr. Hessler discusses the history of computer-based mapping and the Library's current efforts to acquire work notes and studies of persons crucial to its early development.

The story can be read at: www.esri.com/esri-news/arcnews

*

The Joint Chiefs of Staff reviewed the Library's collections related to contemporary and historical military issues in January.

The group, headed by U.S. Army General Martin Dempsey, serve as the body of senior uniformed leaders in the Department of Defense who advise the Secretary of Defense and the President on military policy matters.

Chief Ralph E. Ehrenberg, Ed Redmond, Michael Klein, Cynthia Smith and Ryan Moore, provided in-

sights to maps on display for the military leaders.

*

The Cataloging Team has begun a project to describe the "Title Collection." These 1.5 million individual maps were received before 1968, including many of the items of great interest to historians, but do not appear in the online catalog.

Catalogers Seanna Tsung, Iris Taylor, and Tammy Wong created 152 collection level records for some 167,000 map sheets in the Title Collection, covering Australia, 29 U.S. states,

and countries in Africa, Central and Eastern Europe, Central Asia, Southeast Asia, and the Indian subcontinent.

*

A project to create electronic finding aids for G&M's unique collections has begun. Finding aids describe the contents of a given collection.

These detailed guides will be attached to the cataloging record and will be viewable online. As they become available, announcements will be made in the newsletter.

New Steering Committee Members

Story continued from page 2

An avid map collector for over thirty years, Dr. Walker has an interest in the Pacific Northwest and early nineteenth century Trans-Mississippi West material. As an amateur researcher he has written several published articles and book reviews and has given many presentations on historic maps and their relationship to exploration and discovery.

He and his wife Barbara proudly claim two sons and four grandchildren.

Dr. Walker has been an enthusiastic supporter of the Phillips Society and appreciates the opportunity to serve on the Steering Committee. "While I can still count to nine," he said.

*

Robert ("Bob") David was born in Miami, Florida. As a youth, he enjoyed what called the "old Miami." He described it as a place with uncrowded beaches; where fishing was "easy and free"; and Sinatra, Nat King Cole and Johnny Mathis were performing at the hotels. He remembered playing on the grounds of the famous Mediterranean Revival-styled mansion Viscaya, which is a museum and a U.S. National Historic Landmark.

After receiving a Bachelor of Science from the University of Miami, Mr. David joined the Army Reserve. He later received a Bachelor of Architecture at the University of Florida.

Following college, he spent two years in Tampa, Florida as a graduate architect at Watson Engineering. Returning to Miami, he became interested in city planning and took a position with the City of Miami Beach. During his eleven-year tenure, Mr. David

reached the position of Planning Director and the "fun began," he said.

His team established the Art Deco Historic District, the Ocean Front Board Walk, and specialty districts such as Ocean Drive, Washington Avenue, and Lincoln Road, along with many city parks.

Mr. David's career shifted to town development when he joined the City of Coral Springs in northwest Broward County. As Director of Economic Development, he assisted in the planning and oversight of commercial and industrial development together with city infrastructure.

During that twelve year period, two major "head over heels" events occurred: Mr. David married his wife Lorette, and he became interested in vintage maps.

He organized a map exhibit as chair of the Broward County Library Board, called, "Florida, The Making of a State." The event was carried out with the help of the Library of Congress, especially Ralph Ehrenberg, and many others. The award-winning catalog is online, and a ten minute video was produced for elementary school students to learn about maps.

Mr. David is actively involved in the Miami International Map Fair. For several years he has been a member of the Phillips Society and of IMCoS, attending many of the annual symposiums. More recently he also became a member of the Washington Map Society and said that he thoroughly enjoys reading *The Portolan*.



Perry in Japan

Story continued from page 3

John A. Wolter received his doctorate in geography from the University of Minnesota, 1975. He was appointed Assistant Chief of G&M in 1968, and then Division Chief. He retired from the Library in 1991. During his career, he also served as chairman of the U.S. Board on Geographic Names.

Mr. Wolter grew up in Minnesota and is a merchant marine veteran of WWII and a U.S. Army veteran of the Korean War.

He resides in Salisbury, Maryland.

By Ryan Moore

Acknowledgements

Waldseemüller Circle: \$50,000—or more (cumulative)

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Chief's Report

Story continued from page 1

woodblocks in 1777.

Our non-Latin script collection is growing. The Cataloging Team worked on 2,289 of these materials, including items in Japanese, Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Persian, Hebrew and Yiddish. The items are described in English and in their respective native script.

Retirements and transfers have reduced our Collections Management Team by half. Despite this obstacle, the team shifted 1.5 million maps and 350 map cases to make room for the new

secured storage facility.

We completed an inventory of our special collections. For these 296 unique sets, we have established an archival processing schedule and have started to create online finding aids. These will be attached to the catalog record and provide an overview of a given collection's contents.

Our reference services are in demand. The team assisted 2,640 researchers, answered 890 phone queries, and replied to 2,399 online questions. Scholars and delegations from Japan, Cameroon, Venezuela, Brazil, among others, visited the reading room for research purposes.

We also provide reference to Members of Congress and their staffs. We answered 104 questions and created original maps on demand. Some of these included maps of U.S. and foreign energy assets, populations of states and international terrorism.

I hope you will attend our upcoming Spring Conference and Annual Meeting on May 15 and 16 at the Library. We will begin with a brief report on the Society's plans and finances. Our conference will commence immediately afterwards. Please see the announcement on the next page for more information.

By Ralph E. Ehrenberg

Longtime Volunteer Enjoys Working with Collections

Herb Gilder has been a volunteer in G&M for the past 11 years. Wednesday mornings, he can be found organizing and preparing metadata. He has worked on more than 100 collections, containing more than 15,000 items.

Interested in history and maps, Mr. Gilder finds three of the Division's collections particularly compelling.

The 1990 Mental Sketch Maps of Thomas Saarinen reveal geographic knowledge of first-year college students. Mr. Gilder suggests that the collection might be enhanced with a survey of today's crop of freshman students.

Mr. Gilder enjoyed the collection of General Tasker Howard Bliss, a member of Woodrow Wilson's staff at the 1919 Paris Peace Conference. It contains unique maps and charts used to determine borders after the war.

Cold War maps caught Mr. Gilder's

attention. The collection of Colonel Dastagir S. Wardak, a former member of the Soviet General Staff, includes maps and charts used in Soviet war games. These hypothetical plans to overrun Western Europe were published as part of the *Voroshilov Lectures*.

Since retiring to the Washington area, he has volunteered at the Smithsonian, the Holocaust Memorial Museum, the White House and as treasurer for the Arlington Public Library.

He previously managed consumer product companies.

"We are honored to have Mr. Gilder as a volunteer. His dedication and hard work is appreciated by everyone in the Division," said G&M Chief Ralph E. Ehrenberg.

By Ryan Moore

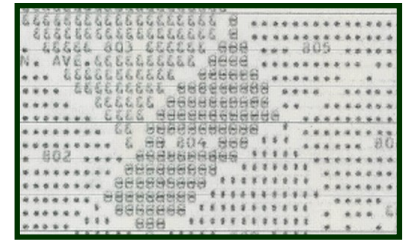


Annual Spring Conference & Meeting

From Terra to Terabytes



The History of Twentieth-Century Cartography and Beyond



The study and science of cartography, and its related geographical disciplines, underwent profound technological and conceptual advancements in the last hundred years. This conference will review the history of cartography in the twentieth century and glance at what is coming in the future.

May 15—Day 1

Keynote

Cartography in the Long Twentieth Century

Mark Monmonier, Syracuse University

Session 1: Popular Cartography

Picturing the World: American Pictorial Maps, 1920-1960

Stephen Hornsby, University of Maine

Follow Your Flight: Airline Passenger Mapping

Ralph Ehrenberg, Library of Congress

Mapping the U.S. by Roads

James Ackermann, Newberry Library

Session 2: Military and Intelligence Cartography

The Missing Decade of Remote Sensing History:

Corona and the late Twentieth Century

Keith Clarke, University of CA at Santa Barbara

National Security and the History of Cartography

Laura Krugan, Columbia University

The Rhetorical Lives of Cold War Maps

Timothy Barney, University of Richmond

May 16—Day 2

Session 1: Scientific Cartography

The Tip of the Iceberg:

Marie Tharpe and Women in Mapping in

the Mid-Twentieth Century

Judith A. Tyner, California State University

Mapping Other Worlds

Philip Stooke, University of Western Ontario

Session 2: Birth of Computer Mapping and the Future of Cartography

Cartographic Grounds: Projecting the Landscape Imaginary

Jill Desimini, Harvard School of Design

Two Cultures: Time, Cellular Automata

and the End of Cartography

John Hessler, Library of Congress

Final Keynote

Real-time, Space-time Integration

in Geography and Cartography

Douglas Richardson

Executive Director

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